Effect of War with Pakistan on Tourism Industry

2508. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the foreign exchange earned through tourism during the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that the possibility of war with Pakistan has affected the tourism industry this year; and

(c) what is.the foreign exchange earned through tourism in the current year *viz-a-viz* last year?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) The foreign exchange earnings through tourism during the years 1999, 2000 and 2001 have been estimated as Rs.12951 crores, Rs. 14238 crores and Rs. 14344 crores respectively.

(b) Tourism in India has been affected mainly by the general economic slow down and the after effects of the terrorist attacks at various places.

(c) The estimated foreign exchange earnings through tourism during January—March 2002 have been Rs. 3673.50 crores as compared to Rs. 4164 crores earned during the same period of the year 2001.

Tourism potential in Rajasthan, Goa and Kerala

2509. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government are taking to increase tourism in States like Rajasthan, Goa and Kerala which are otherwise destinations for foreign tourists; and

(b) the details of number of tourists who visited these States during the last three years and targets for the next three years?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) The Department of Tourism, Government of